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Art Unit: 2153

Amendment dated April 19, 2004

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## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An output service system comprising:

at least one client for generating order information for ordering output of material data; and

at least one output server for outputting the material data based on the order information provided from the client or clients,

the order information including a pointer for obtaining indicating a storage location of the material data other than the output server or output servers; and

the output server or output servers obtaining the material data by accessing the storage stored at a location other than the output server or output servers based on the pointer included in the order information.

2. (ORIGINAL) An output service system as defined in Claim 1, further comprising a relay server existing between the at least one client and the at least one output server, the relay server selecting one of the at least one output server as an apparatus for outputting the material data according to the order information from the at least one client and providing the order information to the selected server.



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3. (ORIGINAL) An output service system as defined in Claim 2, wherein

the relay server comprises servers at a plurality of steps.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An output service system as defined in

Claim 1, wherein the order information is provided to the output server or

servers via a network.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An output service system as defined in

Claim 1, wherein the order information is provided to the output server or

servers by being recorded in a recording medium.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium

storing order information for ordering output of material data, the order

information including a pointer for indicating a storage location of to obtain the

material data.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of outputting material data

according to order information including a pointer for indicating a storage

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location of obtaining the material data, the order output method comprising

the steps of:

obtaining the material data by accessing the storage location based on

the pointer included in the order information; and

outputting the material data that have been obtained.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An order output apparatus for outputting

material data according to order information including a pointer for indicating

a storage location of obtaining the material data, the order output apparatus

comprising:

acquisition means for obtaining the material data by accessing the

storage location based on the pointer included in the order information; and

output means for outputting the material data that have been obtained.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium

storing a program to cause a computer to execute an order output method for

outputting material data based on order information including a pointer for

indicating a storage location of obtaining the material data, the program

comprising the procedures of:

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obtaining the material data <u>by accessing the storage location</u> based on the pointer included in the order information; and outputting the material data that have been obtained.

